

DAN: 38118  
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REF: HK016388

*Cov. Phil.*

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*OPS 9.10  
Philippines*

RATUZYUW RUMJHKA7422 3340738-UUUU--RUCWAAD.  
ZNR UUUUU ZYN ZPO ZZ0  
R 290718Z NOV 88  
FM FBIS HONG KONG  
TO RUCWAAD/FBIS RESTON VA//415//  
RUESFG/FBIS BANGKOK TH//616//  
RUMJFBA/FBIS OKINAWA JA//514//  
ACCT FBHK-EWDK  
BT  
UNCLAS

SERIAL: HK016388

SUBJ: PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY ANALYSIS

REF: WA279488 PNA COVERAGE

TEXT:

STAT

1. HONG KONG BUREAU HAS REVIEWED THE 2-WEEK FILES OF THE PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY PROVIDED BY BANGKOK BUREAU AND USIS MANILA. FOLLOWING THE REVIEW, BUREAU DOES NOT FEEL PNA PROVIDES COVERAGE OF SUFFICIENT SUBSTANCE TO WARRANT HAVING THE MANILA CONTRACTOR SUBSCRIBE TO THIS SERVICE. THE PRINCIPAL REASONS ARE: 1) MANILA PNA DOES NOT CARRY UNIQUE MATERIALS THAT THE BUREAU IS NOT ABLE TO RECEIVE FROM SOURCES ALREADY ON COVERAGE. 2) THE BULK OF THE SELECTABLE MATERIALS FILED BY MANILA PNA ARE CARRIED AFTER THE MANILA CONTRACTOR'S WORKING HOURS, AND THE BUREAU WOULD STILL BE SADDLED WITH COVERING THIS NEWS FROM THE RADIOS ON COVERAGE. 3) IT DOES NOT PROVIDE ANY GOOD PROVINCIAL-LEVEL COPY.

2. MANILA PNA OPERATES FROM ABOUT 2300 GMT TO ABOUT 1500 GMT (THE TIMES OF OPERATION CAN VARY UP TO AN HOUR EITHER WAY). ITS SIGN-ON MESSAGE READS: "ADVISORY-CAST: GOOD MORNING EDITORS/SUBSCRIBERS: THE PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY BEGINS ITS CAST FOR TODAY, (DATE). (SIGNED) THE PNA." THE CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENT READS: "GOOD NIGHT EDITORS. THE PNA ENDS ITS CAST FOR TODAY. (SIGNED) THE PNA."

3. BUREAU OBSERVED THAT MANILA PNA, UNLIKE BANGKOK BUREAU'S OANA/PNA SERVICE, CARRIES A LARGE NUMBER OF FOREIGN NEWS AGENCY PICK UPS. THE FOLLOWING WERE OBSERVED: KYODO, XINHUA, BERNAMA, ANTARA, TANJUG, PTI, YONHAP, NOVOSTI, AND TNA.

4. ON 9 NOVEMBER, FOR EXAMPLE, THE MANILA PNA SERVICE CARRIED 111 ITEMS, BROKEN DOWN IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER: PNA 74; XINHUA 13; KYODO 13; ANTARA 1; TNA 2; YONHAP 3; PTI 2; NOVOSTI 3. OUT OF THESE ITEMS, WITH A LIBERAL FILE, THE BUREAU COULD HAVE SELECTED SOME 16 ITEMS. HOWEVER, ALL OF THESE ITEMS WERE COVERED FROM MEDIA ALREADY ON COVERAGE AT THE BUREAU. 29/0722Z NOV  
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